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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/789,654

02/27/2004

William Harrison Allen

141647.00001

9187

25207

7590

03/17/2008

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EXAMINER

HU, KANG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/17/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/789,654

Applicant(s)

ALLEN, WILLIAM HARRISON

Examiner

Kang Hu

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-12, 15-19, 21 and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-12, 15-19, 21 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/17/2007 has been entered. Claims 9, 10 and 12 have been amended, claims 1-7, 13, 14 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 21 and 22 have been added. Currently claims 8-12, 15-19, 21 and 22 are pending in the application with claim 8 previously indicated as allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 9-12, 15-19, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soto et al. (US 6,954,199), in view of Sameth et al. (US 5,882,202), and further in view of Manger (US 4,427,390).

Re claim 9, the combination teachings of Soto et al. (US 6,954,199, Sameth et al. (US 5,882,202), and Manger (US 4,427,390), has been previously discussed in the office action dated 4/16/2007 and 10/26/2005 with the exception of explicitly disclosing a raised set of punctuation

symbols spaced across said page. Soto, Manger and Sameth all teaches of methods and apparatus for aiding language instructions. One of ordinary skill in the art would know that part of the language teaching is about grammatical structure as stated in Soto's background. Grammatical structure also includes punctuation marks. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to not only produce raised up letters as seen in Manger, but also raised up punctuation symbols spaced across said page for better illustration.

Re claims 10 -12, Soto, Sameth and Manger combined further does not teach of a movable eye marker being horizontally slidable across at least apportion of said page so as to focus the user on the particular punctuation symbol of interest and allow the user to move or hold said movable eye marker stationary. One of ordinary skill in the art would know that part of language learning and teaching a child how to read is by using tracking skills, tracking in reading is the ability to follow a line of type across a page from left to right and from the top of the page to the bottom. One can work on these skills with their children or student by using their finger to point as they read. A child usually learns how to read when the parent point out words in the sentence as they read it out loud. One of ordinary skill in the art would further be able to provide a similar structure similar to the finger for the child to follow along while reading. It would have been an obvious design choice of how the movable eye marker would be constructed according to the preference by the designer. It is also known to one of ordinary skill in the art that punctuation marks are symbols that indicate the structure and organization of writing, as well as intonation and pauses to be observed when reading it aloud. Therefore one of ordinary skill in the art would know such punctuation symbols would illustrate different duration of pauses.

The examiner believes all limitations further claimed in claims 15 - 19 and the newly added claims 21-22 have been discussed above and in the previous office action and will not be repeated herein.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 9 and 10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kang Hu whose telephone number is (571)270-1344. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 (Mon-Thu).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on 571-272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KH/
Kang Hu
November 23rd, 2007



Robert Pezzuto
SPE, AU 3714